

## ABSTRACT

A method for reducing artifacts in a color printed image, that are perceivable by the naked eye, includes using a different imaging  
5 beam to start imaging each printing plate that is used for a different color plane. Alternatively, a different set of imaging beams may be used to image each printing plate used for a different color plane. The method does not require manipulating image data. The method  
diffuses some errors throughout the printed image and prevents some  
10 errors from being imaged and/or printed which reduces or eliminates the visible perception of artifacts.